



X-PECT THE UNX-PECTED...

PETER DAVID • RYAN SOOK

X-FACTOR

#1



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a Bechry Scan

"X-FACTOR," IT MEANS SOMETHING THAT'S UNPREDICTABLE, THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT, THE SPANNER IN THE WORKS, THE BASEBALL FAN GETTING IN THE WAY OF A PLAY THAT CHANGES THE WHOLE SERIES.

IT'S THE THING YOU BEAT YOURSELF UP OVER NOT HAVING ANTICIPATED, EVEN THOUGH NO ONE POSSIBLY COULD HAVE.

WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT YOU DIDN'T SEE COMING, AND YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE IT...YOU CALL US...

YOU CALL...

...AND WE'LL LAUGH AT YOU AND HANG UP.

KIDDING.
I'M KIDDING.

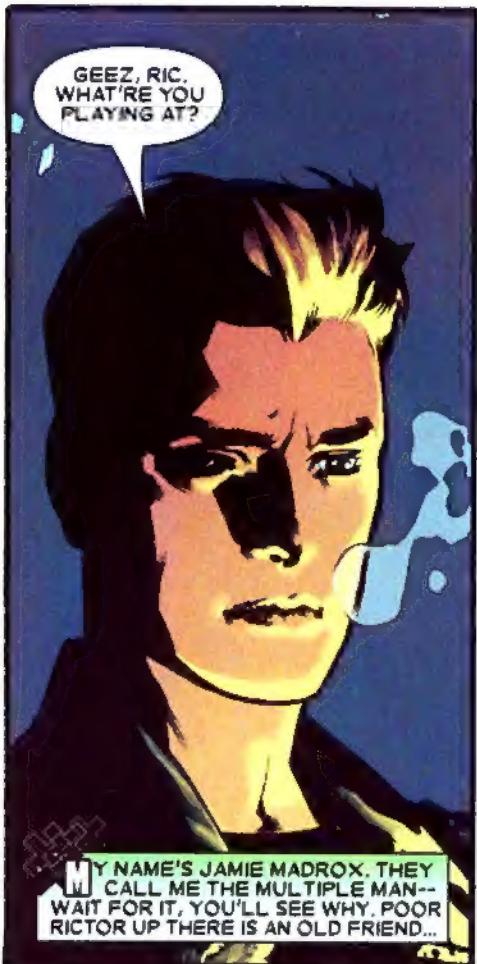
EXCEPT...
NOT ALWAYS.

BY THE WAY, THAT'S NOT ME UP THERE ON THE LEDGE, PREPPING FOR THE BIG DIVE. THAT'S RICTOR.

X-FACTOR

PETER DAVID WRITER RYAN SOOK PENCILS WADE VON GRAWBADGER INKS
JOSE VILLARRUBIA COLOR ART VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS MOLLY LAZER & AUBREY SITTISON ASSISTANT EDITORS
ANDY SCHMIDT EDITOR JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

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IF COURSE, I COULD TRY TO TALK RICTOR OUT OF IT MYSELF.

SHOW-OFF.

BUT I'M THE LAST PERSON TO TRY AND CONVINCE PEOPLE OF ACTIONS THEY SHOULD OR SHOULDN'T TAKE, SINCE I CAN'T MAKE MY MIND UP ABOUT ANYTHING OF REAL IMPORTANCE.

TRYING TO STOP YOU FROM DOING SOMETHING STUPID.

THAT'S THE JOY AND TRAGEDY OF BEING A MULTIPLE MAN. WHEN YOU CAN CHOOSE EVERY DIRECTION AT ONCE...NO DIRECTION IS MORE ENTICING THAN ANY OTHER.

SO IF RICTOR SAYS, "SHOULD I JUMP?" I'LL BE LYING IF I SAY ANYTHING OTHER THAN "I DUNNO." AND THAT INSINCERITY MIGHT SHOW.

THIS OKAY?

Y...YEAH.
FINE SO...
WHO SENT YOU? XAVIER?
FROST?

Nobody.
YOU MADE A
"BREAKING NEWS"
BULLETIN, PAL.
SAW YOU
ON TV.

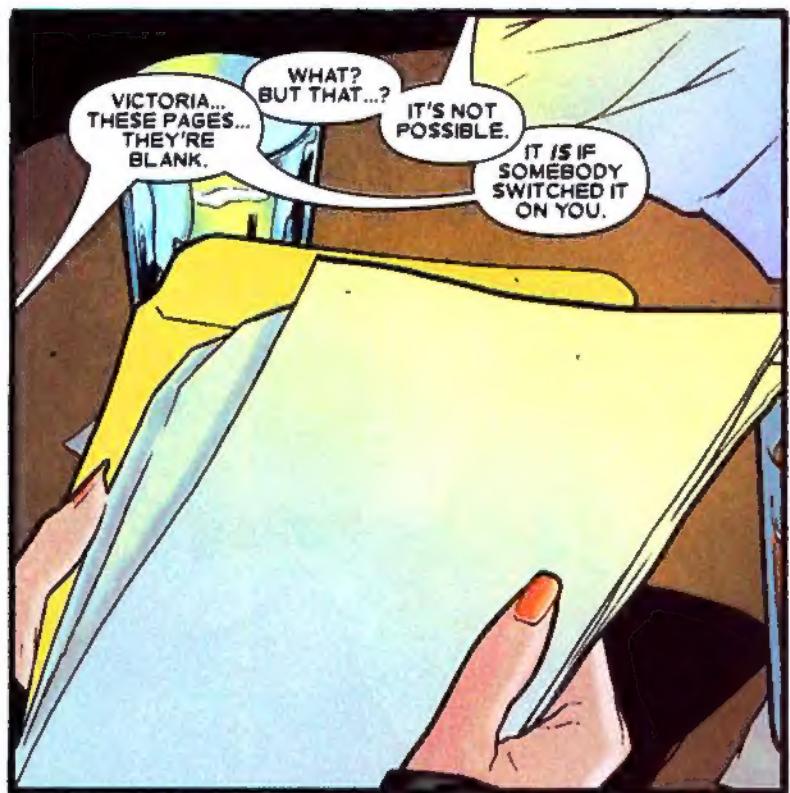
SO THIS IS MY FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME, HUH?
FIGURES.

RIC...
WHATEVER IT IS, WE CAN DEAL WITH IT...

I'M NOT A MUTANT ANYMORE,
JAMIE.

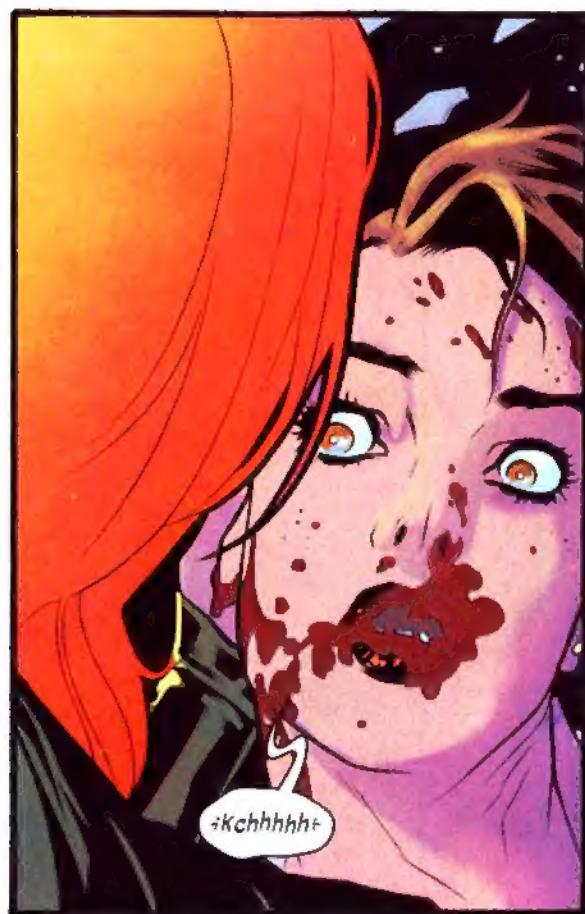
I CAN DEAL WITH ANYTHING...
EXCEPT THAT.





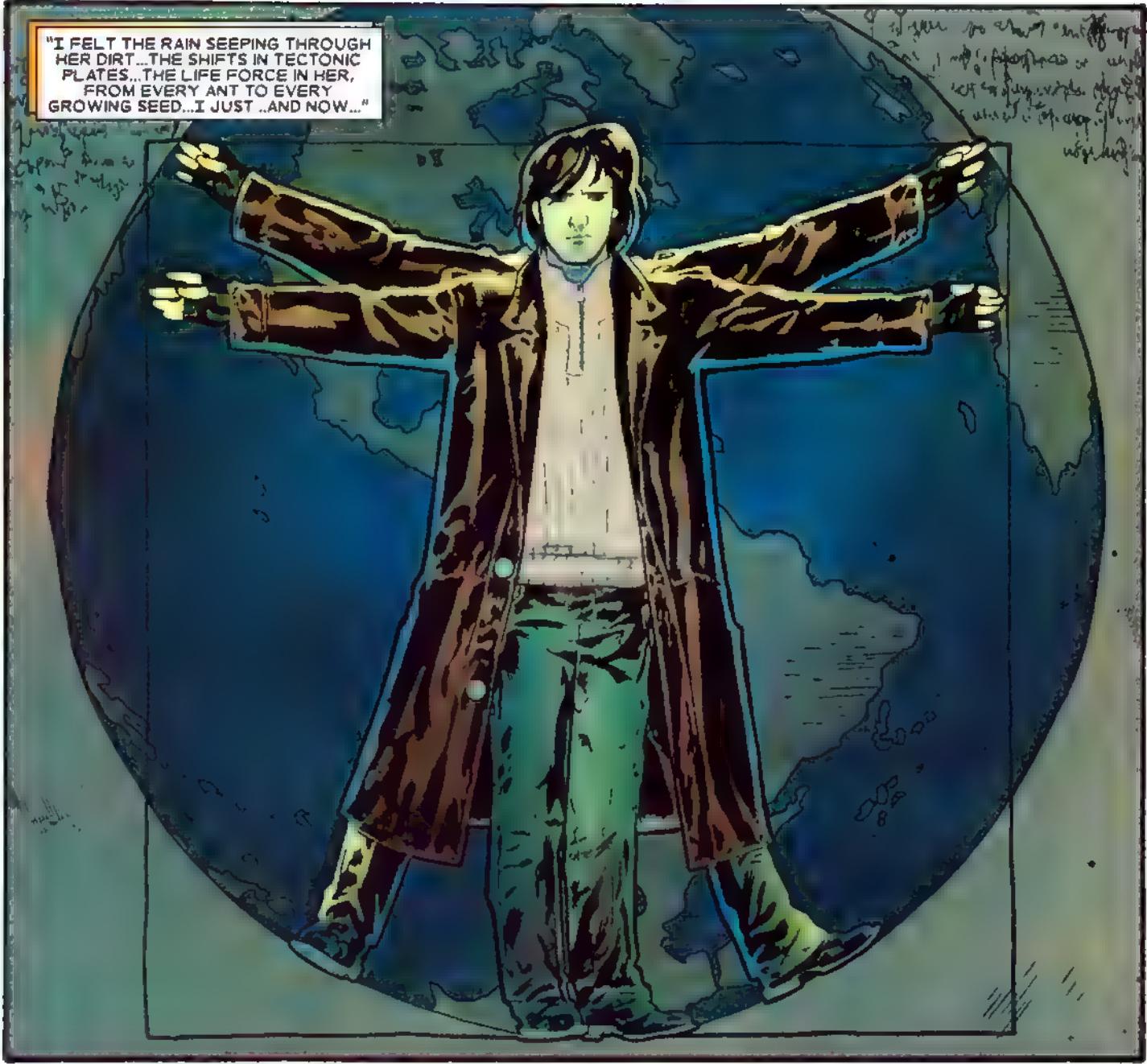
BAM- BAM-
BAM- BAM-
BAM- BAM-
BAM-







"I FELT THE RAIN SEEPING THROUGH HER DIRT...THE SHIFTS IN TECTONIC PLATES...THE LIFE FORCE IN HER, FROM EVERY ANT TO EVERY GROWING SEED...I JUST...AND NOW..."



IT'S LIKE SOMEONE THREW A BAG OVER MY HEAD, STUFFED MY EARS AND NOSE WITH COTTON.

I MEAN, I USED TO FEEL SORRY FOR NOT JUST THE SAPS, FOR OTHER MUTANTS, TOO.

I WAS THE ONE-EYED MAN IN THE KINGDOM OF THE FREAKIN' BLIND.

AND NOW I'M NO DIFFERENT THAN THE ONES I PITIED.

ACTUALLY, I AM DIFFERENT. 'CAUSE NO ONE ELSE EVER HAD IT TO BEGIN WITH, AND I CAN EXPLAIN IT AND MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND IT...

BUT NO ONE ELSE CAN FEEL WHAT I FELT...AND CAN'T ANYMORE

YOU GOT NO IDEA WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING ALONE IN A CROWD.

OH... YOU'D BE SURPRISED.





HE'S KEEPING RIC TALKING,
WHICH IS THE IMPORTANT
THING. NO ONE EVER JUMPS
IN THE MIDDLE OF A
SENTENCE. IT'S...

...I DUNNO...
RUDE.

SHOULD
YOU COME HERE?
BY ALL MEANS. AND
HURRY.

NO, I
WASN'T IMPLYING
YOU WERE GOING
TO STROLL. I
WAS--

JUST GET
OVER HERE AND
DON'T GIMME GRIEF,
OKAY? JEEZ.

I KNOW... I'D DO IT.
JUMP IN THE MIDDLE
OF A SENTENCE.

I HAVE A PERVERSE SIDE
OF ME THAT COMPELS ME
TO DO THE UNEXPECTED
I CAN JUST SEE IT--

THAT'S AN INTERESTING
POINT I HADN'T CONSID-
AHHHHHH!

THAT WOULD
BE FUNNY... BUT
NOT REALLY.

HERE I THINK I'M SO CLEVER,
MAKING IT WORK FOR ME... THIS
THING WITH MY DUPES RANDOMLY
DISPLAYING DIFFERENT
FACETS OF MY PERSONALITY.

EXCEPT NOW I'M
WORRYING "JAMIE
PRIME" IS USELESS

I'VE BEEN MY OWN WORST
ENEMY. NOW I'M MY OWN
COMPETITION.

"X-FACTOR?"
REALLY? AND
YOU'RE THE
BOSS?

YUP. IT STARTED
OUT AS A SMALL
DETECTIVE AGENCY.
ME, STRONG GUY,
WOLFSBANE...

"WOLFSBANE?"
RAHNE JOINED
UP?

PART-TIME,
YEAH. STRICTLY LOW-
RENT... UNTIL I GOT A
MILLION BUCKS TO
UPGRADE.

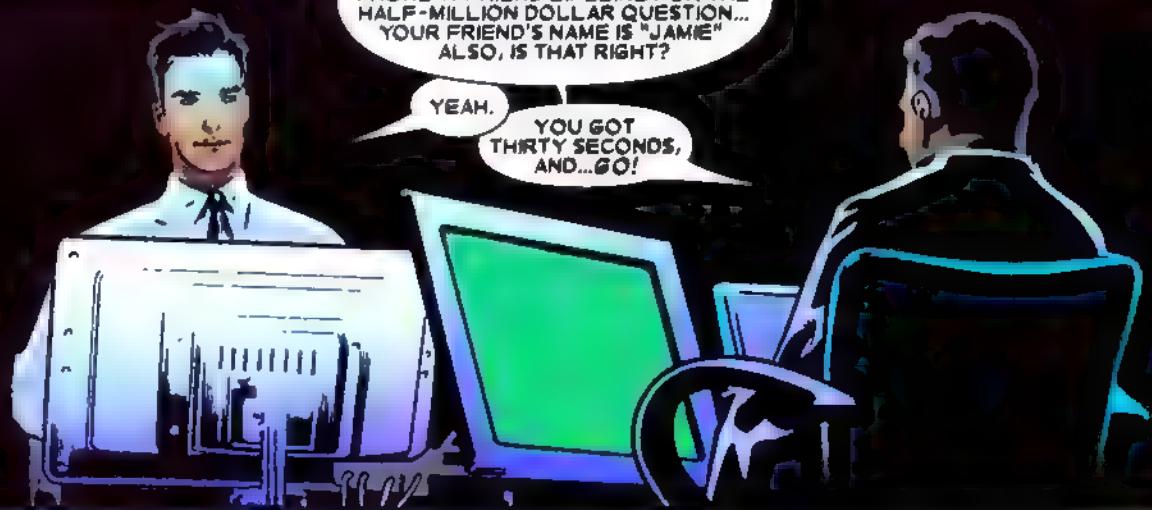
WHERE'D YOU GET A
MILLION DOLLARS
FROM?

FUNNY STORY,
ACTUALLY...

OKAY, JAMIE, YOU'RE USING YOUR PHONE-A-FRIEND LIFELINE FOR THE HALF-MILLION DOLLAR QUESTION... YOUR FRIEND'S NAME IS "JAMIE" ALSO, IS THAT RIGHT?

YEAH.

YOU GOT THIRTY SECONDS, AND...GO!



"IN ADDITION TO DICK SARGENT AND DICK YORK, WHO ELSE PLAYED DARRIN STEVENS IN THE TV SERIES *BEWITCHED*? (A) RICHARD DREYFUSS, (B) BILL MUMY, (C) BOB CRANE, (D) LARRY HAGMAN. TWENTY-ONE SECONDS."



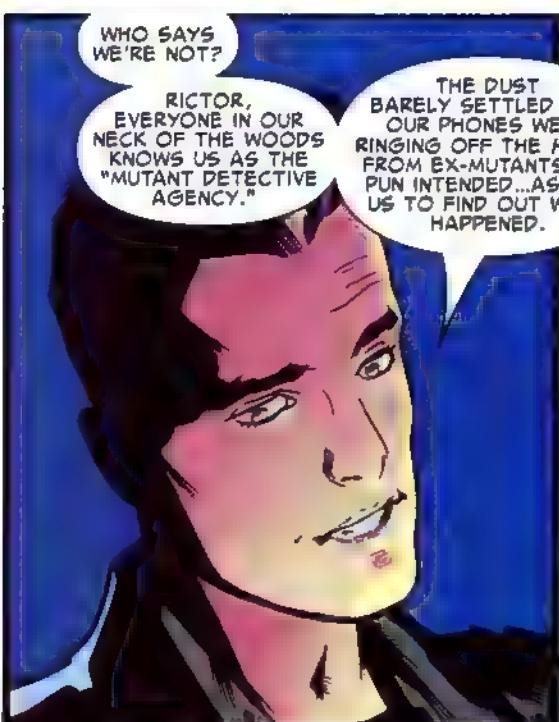
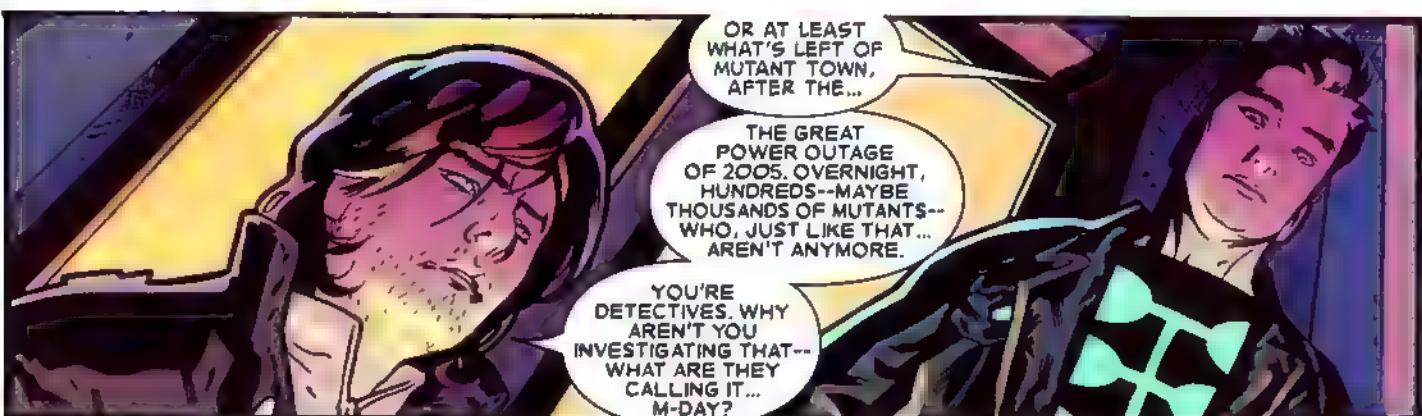
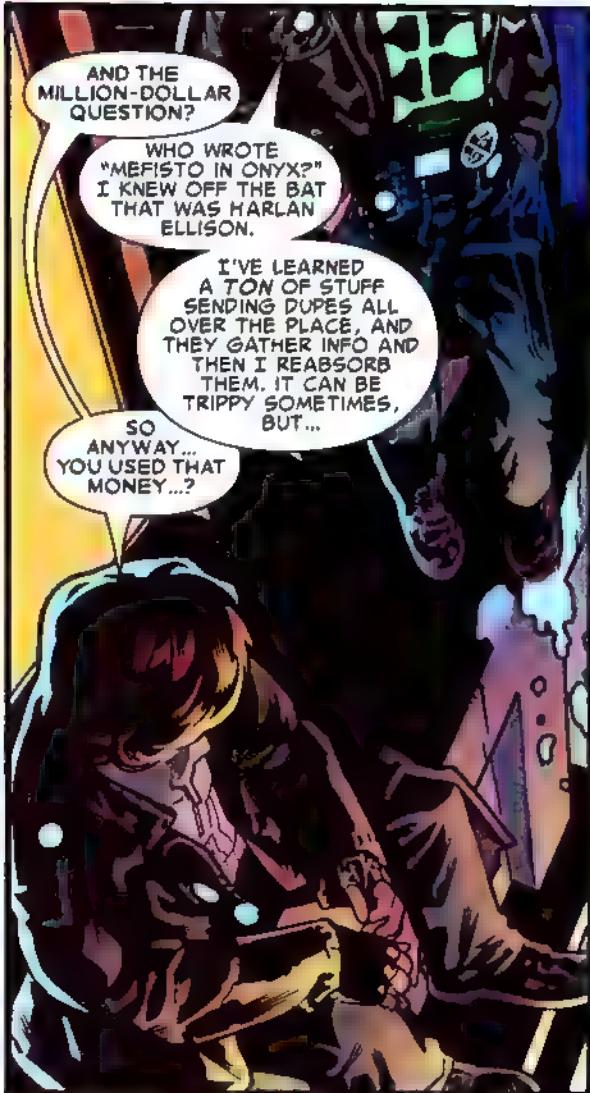
WHY?
HE'S ONLY
CALLING ONE
FRIEND.

ISN'T
THIS KIND OF
CHEATING?



IT'S MUMY!
HE PLAYED DARRIN
WHEN ENDORA
CHANGED HIM INTO
A KID!



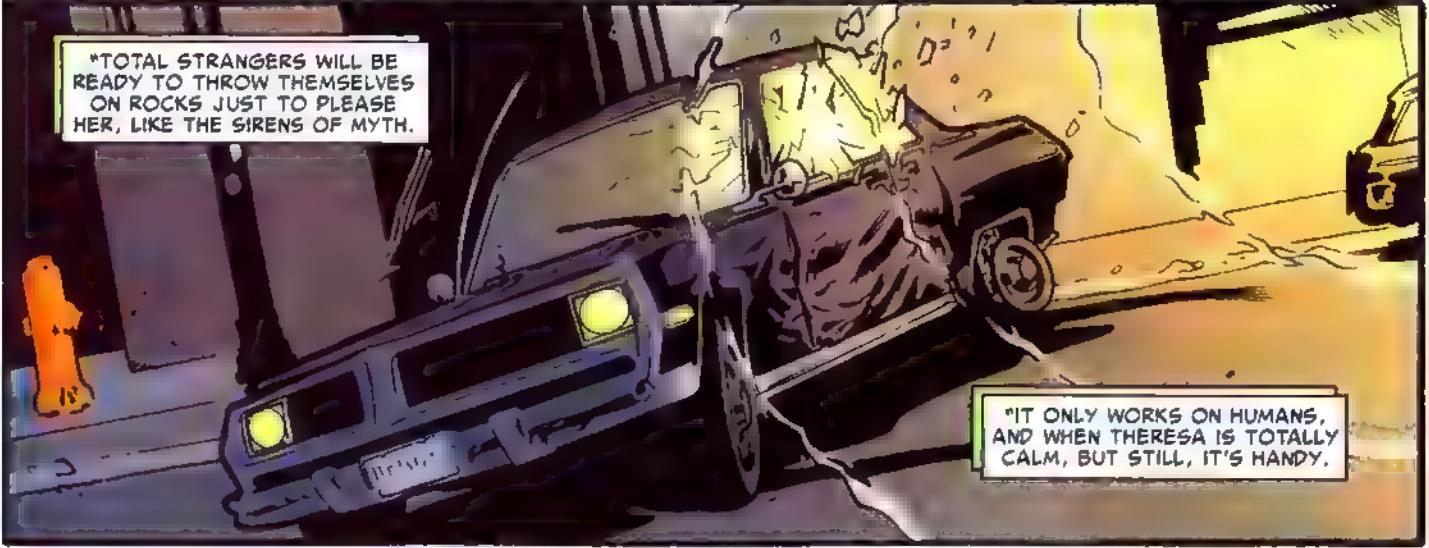




"FOR INSTANCE, THERE'S SIRYN. THERESA CASSIDY, BANSHEE'S DAUGHTER. SHE HAS THE FLIGHT THING, AND THE SOUND-SCREAM THING. BUT THERE'S MORE..."



"RECENTLY SHE DISCOVERED IF SHE MODULATED HER SPEAKING VOICE A CERTAIN WAY, SHE CAN MAKE PEOPLE ADORE HER. DO WHATEVER SHE WANTS THEM TO."



"TOTAL STRANGERS WILL BE READY TO THROW THEMSELVES ON ROCKS JUST TO PLEASE HER, LIKE THE SIRENS OF MYTH."

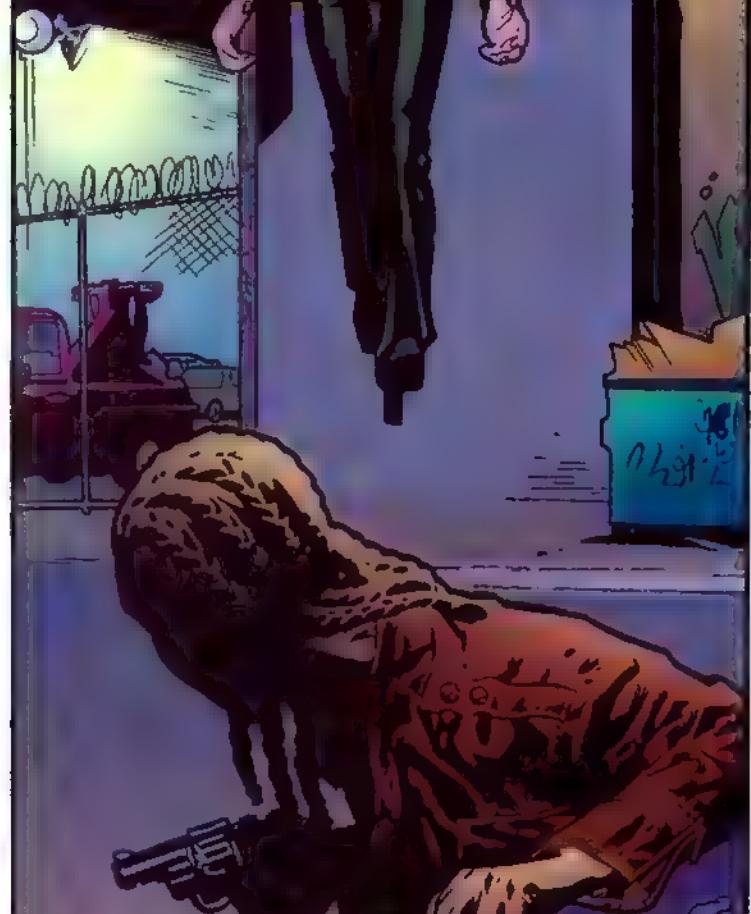
"IT ONLY WORKS ON HUMANS, AND WHEN THERESA IS TOTALLY CALM, BUT STILL, IT'S HANDY."

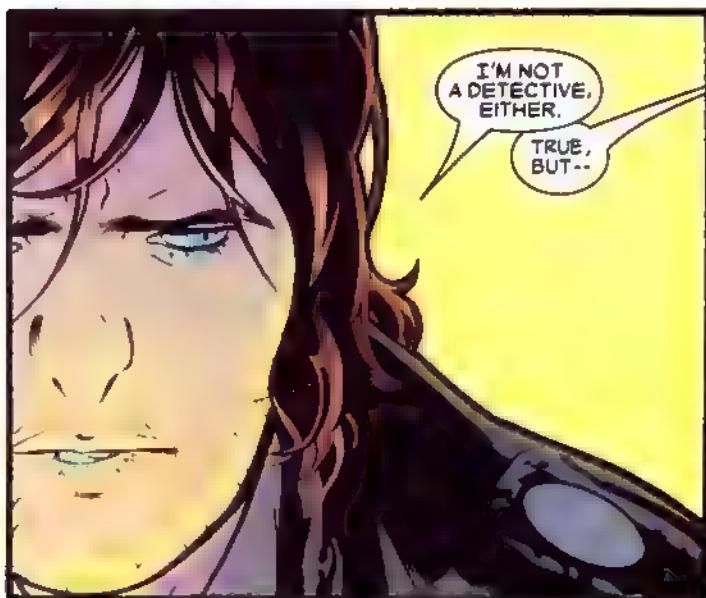


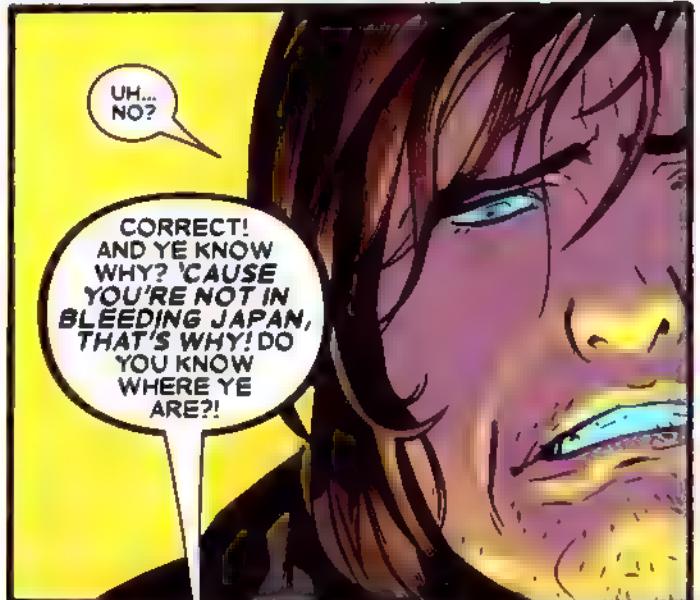
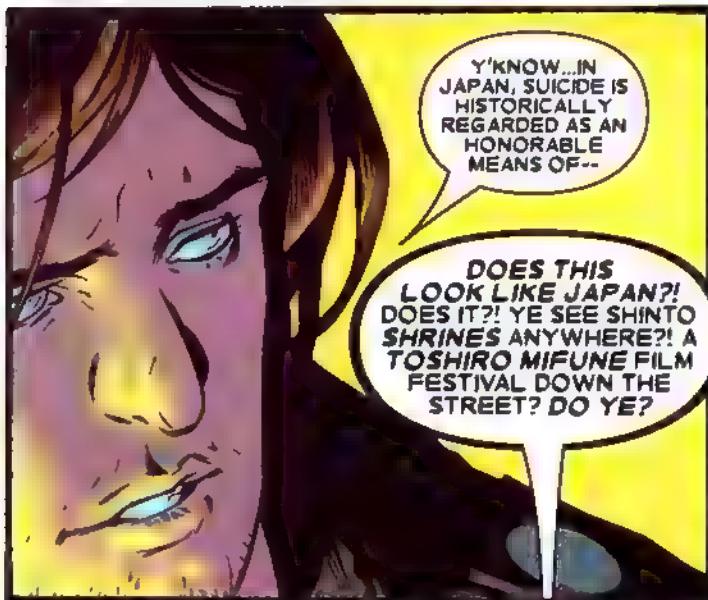
"SHE'S A SWEETHEART. THERESA IS. TOTALLY FUN PERSON."

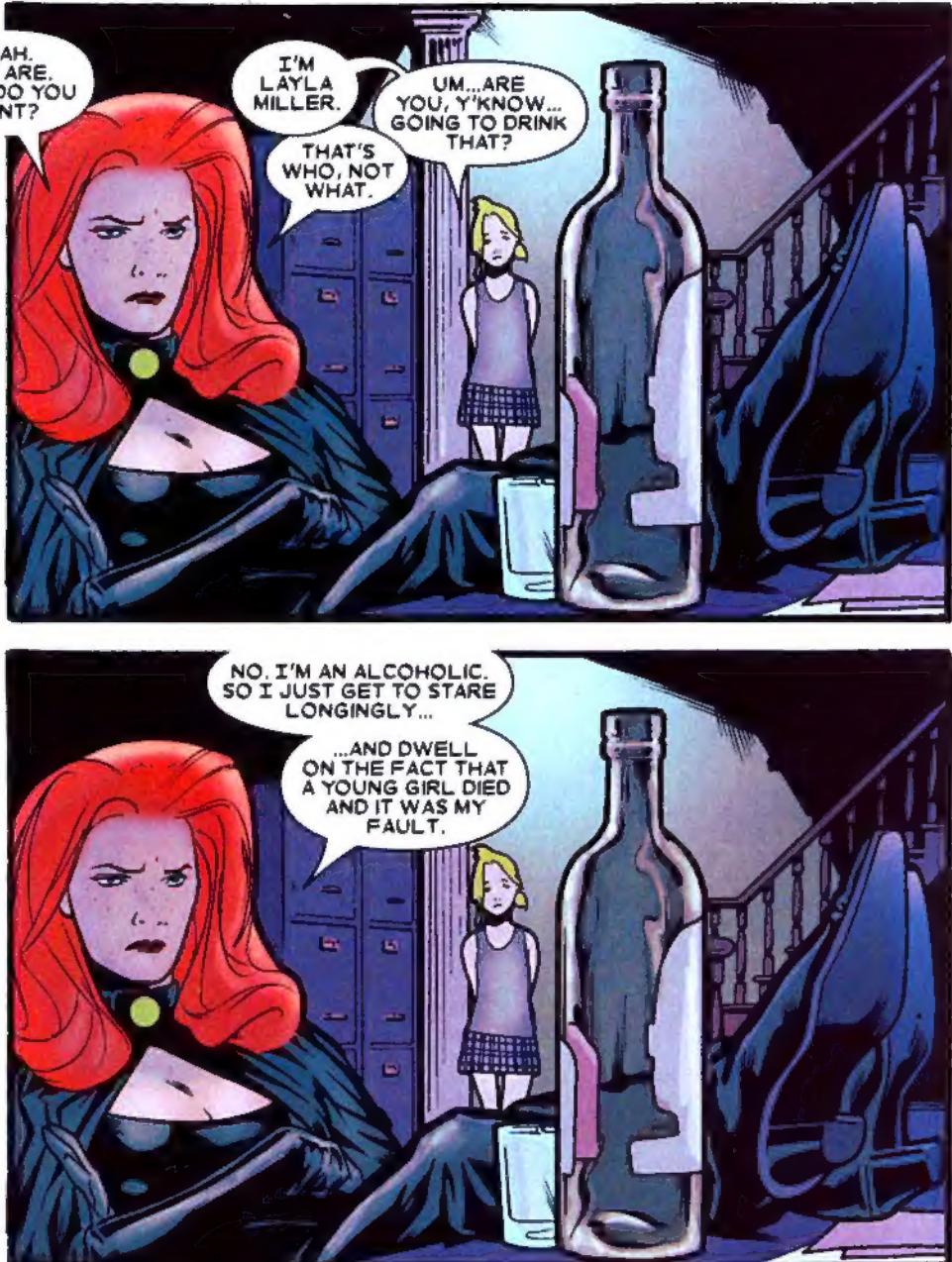


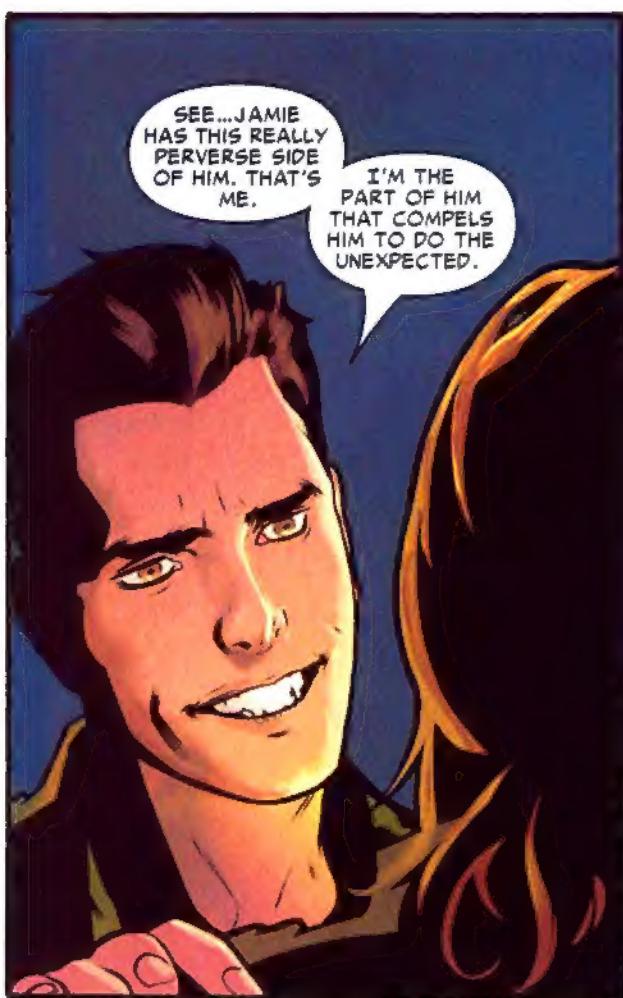
"EVERYBODY SHE ENCOUNTERS JUST TAKES TO HER."

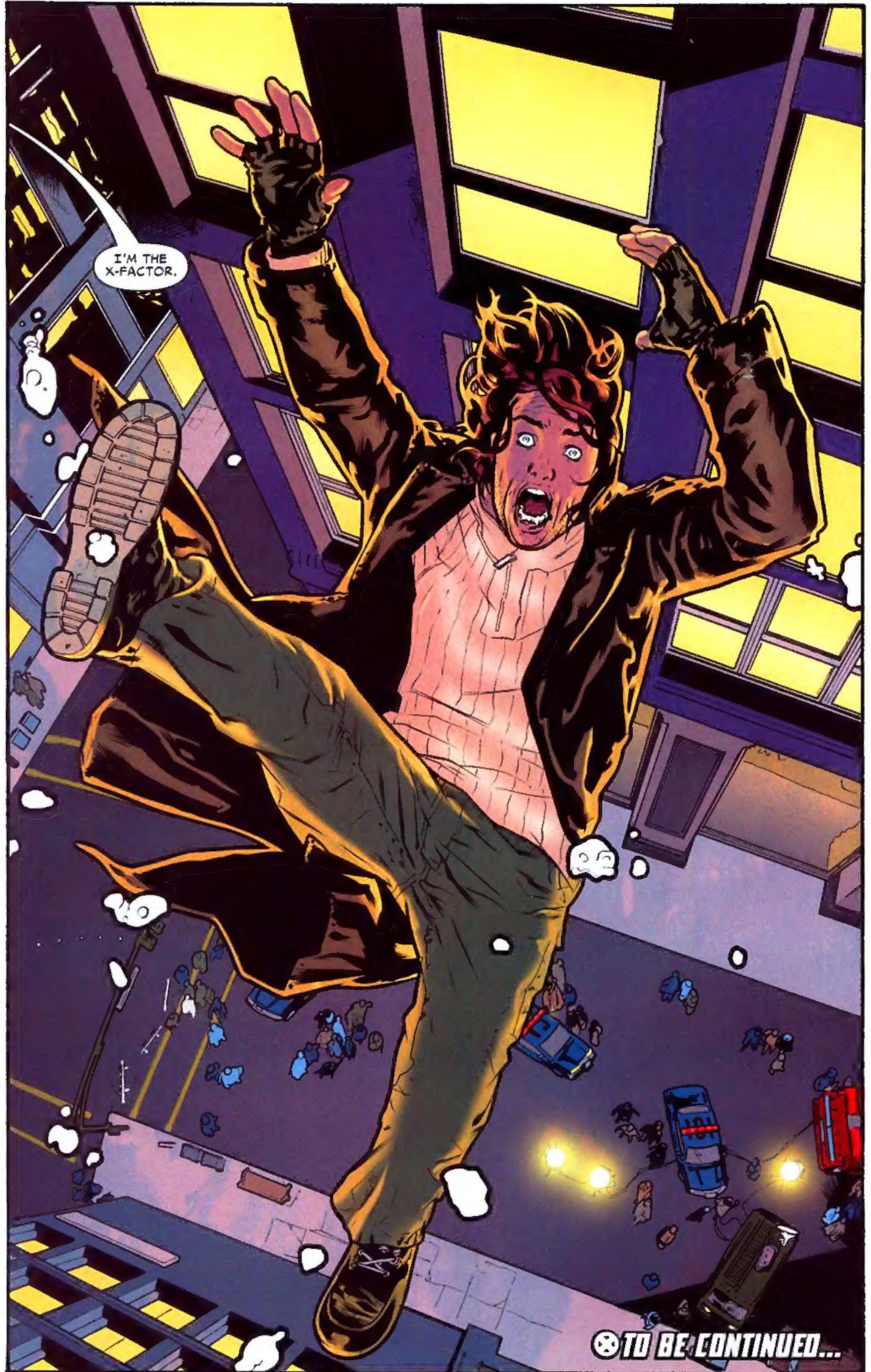














X-FACTOR

X-FACTOR isn't your run-of-the-mill X-Comic.

And that's how we want it.

"X-FACTOR" defines the comic you're reading. We have twists and turns galore. It's dark and muted. You'll never know what to expect when you turn the page.

And all of this will be brought to you by these fine gentlemen...

Peter David's return to the pages of X-FACTOR (he wrote a series by the same name 10 years ago) marks a departure from the kinds of comic stories he normally tells. As a fan of film noir and gumshoe detective stories, X-FACTOR represents a new labor of love for Peter, and it shows on every page.

You'll find the talented Ryan Sook's pencils here. His previous work in comics has garnered him high acclaim, and we expect X-FACTOR to benchmark a new high for his art.

When it comes to inking, you'll find no better than Wade von Grawbadger. His smooth line energizes the pencils he works over.

Jose Villarrubia is no stranger to coloring. His muted style and tone have graced such amazing projects as THE SENTRY with Jae Lee and *Promethea* with J. H. Williams III. On a side note, I'd like to trade places with him,

since he's living in France and that's cool.

Cory Petit is peddling his letters on X-FACTOR. He and Peter are the only two members of the MADROX (a limited series from last year that starred X-FACTOR's lead character, Jamie Madrox) creative team to return for X-FACTOR. You'll notice, if you look closely, that every Madrox duplicate has a slightly different font. I'm sure someone will let us know when we get them mixed up.

And of course, we've got assistant editors Molly Lazer and Aubrey Sitterson tracking all of these talents and adding helpful suggestions along the way. My boss, Tom Brevoort, is also overseeing the scripts with me and making sure I don't let Peter kill the NEW AVENGERS.

And lastly, hi, my name is Andy, and I'll be your editor for the evening. You can yell at me when everything you like about this comic book falls apart.

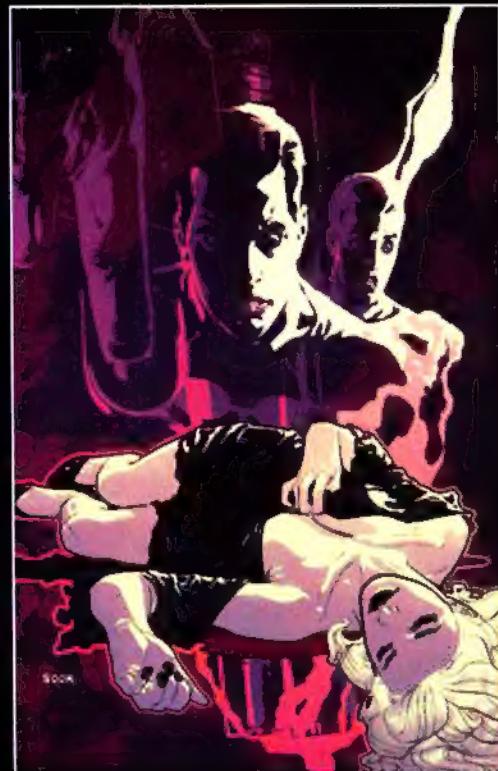
On behalf of everyone on the creative team, we hope you enjoy our first issue!

Starting with issue #3, you'll have Peter David answering your letters, so send them in!

Thanks,

X-Andy

X-FACTOR #2



X-FACTOR #3

